

Terrier Times

May 1, 2006
Volume 1, Issue 3

Washington School for the Deaf



Superintendent's News

Todd Reeves, Superintendent

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Dear Parents:

As the current school year winds down and the preparations for the upcoming school year begin revving up, I want to thank each of you for your support of WSD. Throughout the past year, many parents have taken time to contact myself and others to see how they can support WSD and their child's education. Your dedication and commitment to WSD is greatly appreciated. And your continued involvement in WSD doesn't have to slow down any time soon, as there continue to be activities and opportunities for you to make WSD a better educational program for your child.

Strategic Plan Development: I want to invite your review and comments regarding our draft Strategic Plan. WSD must submit a Strategic Plan for 2007-2012 by June 1, in preparation for the submission of our proposed budget in late summer. The current draft of the Strategic Plan has been placed on our website for your review. Simply 'click' on "Strategic Plan" under the Board of Trustees column and then click on the link to the draft for 2007-2012. You can send your comments to me at todd.reeves@wsd.wa.gov or contact me by phone at 360-418-0401 or 1-800-613-4228 ext. 0401. The Board of Trustees and other members of our community want to ensure your ideas and input are incorporated in the Strategic Plan.

Parent Visits to Classrooms: If you desire, opportunities exist for your observation of classroom activities. We want to be a warm and welcoming place for parents...WSD is not just your child's school; it's your school as well. During the course of the instructional day, we also want to balance the opportunity for parental visits with our focus on maximizing effective instruction, which requires limited student distraction. We think we've struck that balance by having interested parents inform the principal and classroom teacher at least one day in advance of the desired visit time. That way, any scheduling conflicts that may arise can be addressed so that the visit is a positive experience for all.

Continued Engagement in Deaf Education Studies: In the coming year, my office may contact you for specific information regarding your experience seeking out an appropriate educational program for your child. As you know, the Institute for Public Policy report was completed this past year, without resolution concerning the future of WSD. This coming year, a group of stakeholders in deaf education in our state will meet to make recommendations for improving the delivery of educational and transitional services. I'm fairly certain a discussion regarding the current and future role of WSD will be included in this forum. It is possible, then, that WSD will seek your direct input regarding the benefit that WSD provides to your child, so that your input is integrated into the stakeholder discussion. Some other form of legislative review may take place this next year, but the details are unknown at this time.

There are so many other ways that parents can and do make WSD a better educational experience for children. Thank you for all the time and energy you dedicate to WSD and your children. Have a wonderful May and June!

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VANCOUVER, WA 98661

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WWW.WSD.WA.GOV

Congratulations!
Newsletter Name

"Terrier Times"

Submitted by Rick Hauan
Assistant Superintendent

"The objectives for the class were to be able to identify procedures for filling and refilling prescriptions and specific facts about over-the-counter drugs."



Calendar

| May 06 | | | | | | |
|--------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | |

| June 06 | | | | | | |
|---------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
| | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | |

Non-School Days - BLUE

Travel Days - RED

June 15th LAST DAY OF SCHOOL
(Transportation is provided)

Independent Living Skills (ILS)

Pat Almer, Independent Living Skills Coordinator

Marriage Unit/Adult Health

It has been a very busy couple of months for the ILS students.

The ILS boys cooked a St. Patrick's Day dinner that was great! The boys out did the girls. Ask your son what the boys cooked for dinner.

The ILS group worked on the marriage unit. The objective of this unit was to identify the reasons for marriage, and the personal and joint responsibilities in marriage.

On Monday April 10th two married couples came to our class to discuss marriage. Both couples stressed the most important thing in a good marriage is communication between couples.

On Wednesday April 12th the ILS students had a mock wedding. Rick Whitney played the part of the minister. Couples had to go through the process of filling out a marriage license, which was a good learning experience for them. The students were surprised to learn that you have to pay the minister.

Students interviewed people on the pros and cons of being married and single. ILS married couples and singles had to work on a budget. The students discovered that when both married couples work one could afford more things.

On Thursday May 13th our singles and couples became proud parents of a ten pound bag of flour. The purpose of this unit is to teach the students the physical and psychological aspects of raising children. The students will be required to take care of their babies twenty-four hours a day for two weeks. ILS students will be pricing baby items at a local store.

Students in the ILS elective program have been learning about over-the-counter medicines. The

objectives for the class were to be able to identify procedures for filling and refilling prescriptions and specific facts about over-the-counter drugs. We read and interpreted dosage instructions on prescription and over-the counter drugs. We identified common side effects and reactions to drugs and talked about drug storage and safety precautions. We ended the unit with a visit to a Walgreens Pharmacy and talked to the pharmacist who discussed what kind of medicine you would use for different kinds of ailments.

She stressed the importance of asking the pharmacist questions if you are not sure about the right kind of medicine.

Our next unit will be on adult health identifying which check ups adults need, how often they need them, and why they need them. The students will learn which situations require a doctors' attention.

We will be visiting a dental office to find out how to make appointments, and fill out insurance forms. The students will identify the responsibilities of the staff working in the dental office.



"On Thursday May 13th our singles and couples became proud parents of a ten pound bag of flour."

Sports Camp

Larry Cole, Residential Program Supervisor

Football/Volleyball

We are excited and looking forward to our fall sports season. WSD is again offering a sports camp for students in grades 8th - 12th who plan on playing varsity volleyball or football. Dates of the camp will be from August 21st - 26th. Registration packets will be given to all high school students, so be sure to ask your student for it. You can also go onto the WSD website to get a Registration Packet. Take advantage of paying early to get the best price for the camp. We encourage you to take care of the medical form immediately as they can possibly take more time due to needing Doctor Appointments and signatures. Students who received a physical last year only need to have their Doctor sign the "Physical Examination Update" form. A complete physical is not needed because they are good now for two years. The purpose for the camp is to prepare for the upcoming season and to meet the requirements that WIAA has set forth requiring ten practices before a student can participate in a game. Students will practice daily from 8:00 am - 4:00 pm. Evening activities will be set up for enjoyment.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Larry L. Cole

360-696-6525, ext. 4370

1-800-613-4228, ext. 4370

larry.cole@wsd.wa.gov

Nurse Notes

Becky Munson, Nurse



Chickenpox (Varicella Vaccine)

Greetings from the Student Health Center!

The Washington State Board of Health has added a vaccination shot for chickenpox (Varicella) as a requirement for students who attend school and licensed day care beginning July 1, 2006.

WSD students affected by this requirement are:

1. Children attending preschool in the school year 2006-2007
2. Children attending kindergarten in the school year 2006-2007 and
3. Children 12 years old and/or attending 6th grade in the school year 2006-2007.

We will be sending home individual letters to the parents of children affected by this change, but we wanted you to know ahead of time. If your child has a health care appointment soon, ask your child's care provider about the vaccine.

Feel free to call us any time to discuss your child's health—that's what we're here for!
Becky Munson @ 360-696-6525 x4333 or becky.munson@wsd.wa.gov

Construction News

Chuck McCarthy, Financial Operations Administrator

Construction News

Good news, the construction projects are starting. Many small projects are starting around campus. We are remodeling the basement of MacDonald Cottage. It is being turned into a play area for the younger students that they will be able to use when the weather is bad. The theme is "Over the Rainbow". There will be vinyl flooring that will be laid in pattern of the colors of the rainbow. The walls will have the shapes of mountains and clouds which are being designed by the art class. It will be very visually interesting to the students. We are tearing down the old business office and adding parking in it's place.

We are improving the security of the campus by replacing and/or adding new fencing around the campus. New fencing is being placed along 5th Street at the bottom of the hill. A new fence is being installed from the south end of Clarke Hall to the fence at the rear of the cottages to secure that end of the campus. Other areas of the perimeter fencing are either being replaced or upgraded.

The dishwashers in the cottage kitchens have been upgraded and we will be painting the outside of the cottages and improving the gutters. The air conditioning unit on Divine High School is being replaced within the next few weeks.

We received some additional funding from the legislature and will be using that money to improve the bathrooms in Clarke Hall and to address some issues in Hunter Gym.

The old business office is currently being demolished to provide more parking for WSD visitors, parents and staff.



"The walls will have the shapes of mountains and clouds which are being designed by the art class."



Construction in progress on old business office.

Level System

Nancy Sinkovitz, Residential Program Supervisor

Accountability and Reward

In order to improve student accountability and reward students for positive behavior, WSD has developed a Level System for use in the residential program for residential students in grades 7 through 10. The Level System is a behavioral management program designed to encourage students to manage their own behavior, accept responsibility for their behavior and earn privileges for showing positive behavior.

We began implementing the Level System on May 7, 2006. Over the next few weeks we will be assessing the success of the Level System and if needed, will make changes to meet the needs of the students. A copy of the Level System has been sent to all parents/guardians of students in the 7th through 10th grades.

Parents, we encourage you to review the level system and provide any feedback to WSD attention Nancy Sinkovitz or Larry Cole. If you have further questions or comments, please feel free to contact your child's SLCs or one of the Residential Deans.

Thank you for your ongoing support for your children and the residential program.



Garden Project

Michael Carney, WSD Gardener



"I was very impressed with the motivation and determination of the students."



On March 24th 2006 the Vancouver School for the Arts came to our campus for a "Day of Caring". Their mission was to help us in a garden project.

The group of twenty-two students and three adults started their day at 11am. I met the group and we decided our project for the day would be trimming and raking the bank of hypericum (Saint Johns Wort) behind Roberts Cottages. The students split into three groups. The first group trimmed, the second group raked and the third group hauled all the trimmings away in tarps.

I was very impressed with the motivation and determination of the students. They all worked very hard and their team work to get the garden project complete was phenomenal. The Washington School for the Deaf enjoyed having the Vancouver School for the Arts and look forward to working with them again.



Vancouver School for the Arts Students

Dates to Remember

May 22nd

High school students will be involved in a Drug and Alcohol Awareness day.

May 25th

High school prom at the Portland Hilton.

June 12th, 13th, and 14th

9th, 10th and 11th graders will take their semester exams.

WSD Community Cookbook Recipe

Watson West, Independent Living Skills

Chili Pepper Casserole



Ingredients:

3 eggs
1 c. milk
½ c. bisquick
½ tsp salt
18oz c. green Ortega chilies
2 c. chopped tomatoes
2 c. grated cheddar cheese

Directions:

Heat oven to 350 degrees. Beat eggs, milk, salt and bisquick until foamy. Remove stems and seeds from chilies and place in greased casserole dish. Top with tomatoes and then sprinkle with cheese. Pour egg mixture over the top. Bake uncovered 40-45 minutes, or until golden brown. Makes 6 servings

WSD Cookbooks are available for purchase \$8.00!

Contact Larry Cole
(360) 696-6525x4370 or
larry.cole@wsd.wa.gov
for more information

Graduation

Teresa Stotler-Martin, High School Teacher



Commencement Speaker

The Class of 2006 has selected Elizabeth Ayers Gibson to be the Commencement Speaker. Elizabeth graduated from WSD in 1993, from Rochester Institute of Technology in 1998 with a Bachelors in Diagnostic Medical Sonography and in 2002 with a Masters of Science in Secondary Education from NTID. Elizabeth is currently employed as a sonographer at Virginia Mason Medical Center in Seattle and Federal Way. Elizabeth is the first deaf sonographer to attain the Advanced Practice Sonographer credential, and only a few sonographers are members of this elite group. Elizabeth has composed two case study articles that have been published in the prestigious Journal of Diagnostic Medical Sonography. Elizabeth tentatively plans to speak on "Choices". The choices that our graduates make in the next 5-10 years will have a huge impact on the rest of their lives."

SENIOR NEWS

Seniors will be presenting their final **Senior Project** presentation starting **June 1st**. This is a new **requirement** for graduation for all high school graduating seniors in the state of Washington.

Seniors will take their final exams/projects starting **May 31st**.

The seniors and their family will be invited to a special dinner - "Superintendent's Dinner" on **June 5th**.

Class of 2006

Dulce Maria Arambula – Seattle

Nicholas David Gilles - Burlington

David Ross Griffin – Vancouver

Neal Cedric Kelly – La Center

Maura Maroon Mackey – Ridgefield

Phillip Andrew Somers – Ellensburg

Yesenia Ortiz Velasquez – Ephrata

The Senior Class

Of

Washington School for the Deaf

Announces its

Commencement Exercises

Thursday evening, June eighth

Two-Thousand-Six

Six-thirty o'clock

George B. Lloyd Auditorium

Opening and Closing Speakers

Washington School for the Deaf allows the graduating class to select the opening and the closing graduation speakers.

Nicholas David Gilles was selected by his graduating peers to present the opening speech.

Maura Maroon Mackey was selected by her graduating peers to present the closing speech.

Class Motto

"Tomorrow is the mirror of what we accomplished today."

Literacy Faire

Nikki Ekle, Outreach

Literacy Fair

July 13 – 22, 2006

Free for WSD students

Both ESY/non-ESY students

(if WSD student does not have ESY,
he/she can participate in the camp)

Need more information, email Nikki Ekle

nikki.ekle@wsd.wa.gov



Tentative schedule

Thursday, July 13

- Registration and socialization
- Day students will not stay after the registration/socialization time

Friday – Friday (not Saturday and Sunday) July 14 - 21

- 7:45am drop-off (day student)
- 8:00am drop-off (residential from cottage to class)
- 8:00am–3:00pm classes/break
- 11:45am–12:45pm **LUNCH**
- 12:45pm–3:00pm classes/break
- 3:00pm–5:00pm activities
- 5:30pm **pick up Day students**
- 6:00–6:30pm **DINNER**
- 6:45–8:45pm activities/socialization
- 9:00pm Bedtime

Sunday, July 16

- Breakfast, fun activities, no classes

Saturday, July 22

- Breakfast, prepare for performance and festival (10am–3pm)
- Lunch
- Activities in the afternoon and check out by 3:00pm

Washington School for the Deaf
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